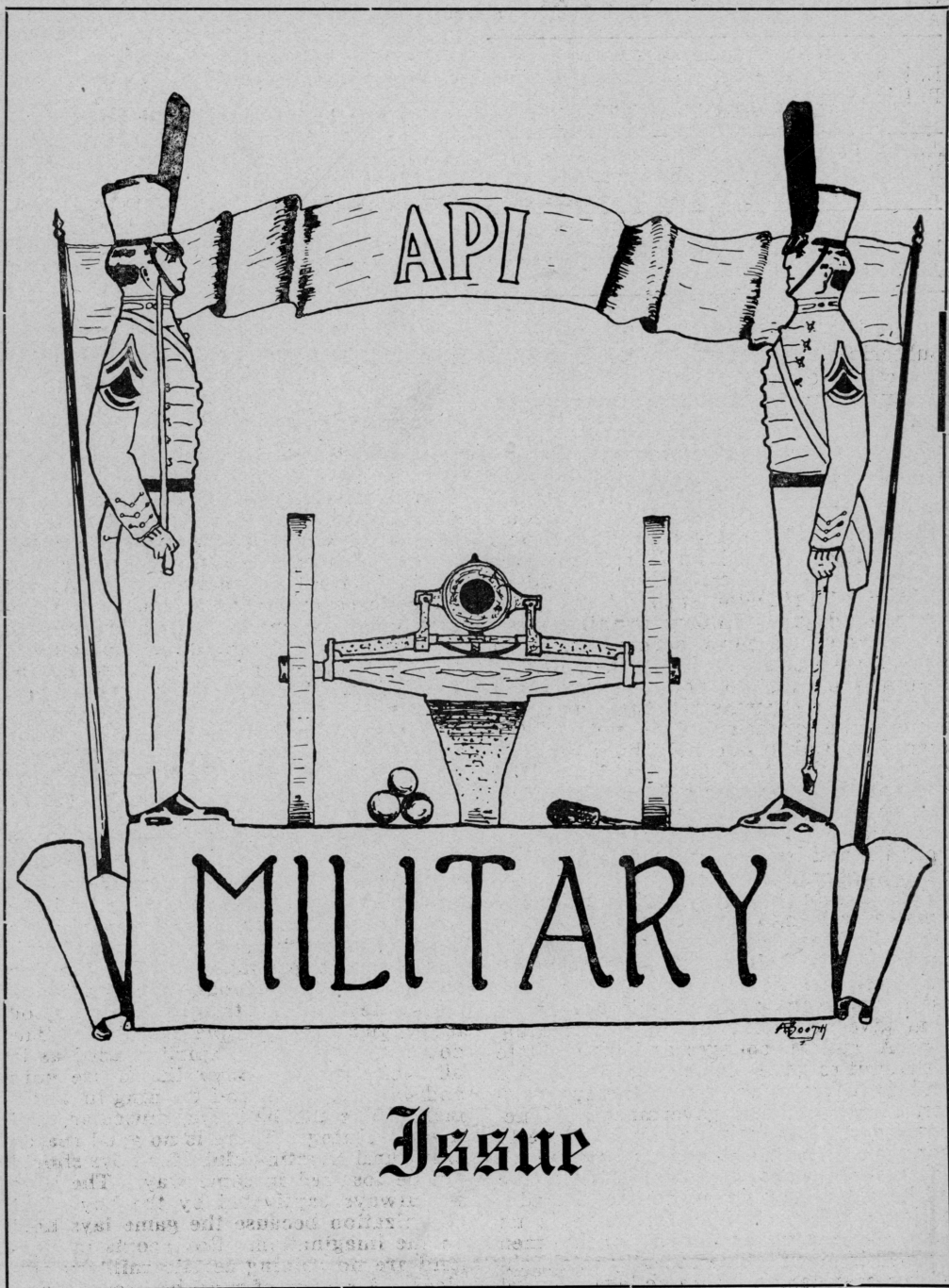


# The Auburn Alumnus

Volume 3, Number 7

February, 1915



## Issue

## THE AUBURN ALUMNUS

Published once each month during the college session and once in the summer for the graduates and former students of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute under the auspices of the Auburn Alumni Association.

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Recently there has been a good deal of discussion about our nation's preparedness for war. College presidents have begun to discuss the obligation of the colleges to give some kind of military training. President Hibben of Princeton insists that, while we should give military training more extensively, we must accomplish it in such a way as not to foster the spirit of militarism. We do not need an army party to keep warning us that our destiny must be fought out at the point of the sword and that our neighbors are our enemies. We can dispense with the kind of snob that provokes a Sabern atrocity. Our problem, then, is to avoid the hostile, suspicious war spirit and all its accessory ills and burdens and yet to be ready for war should it come.

The National Guard is giving the necessary training to young men in our cities and some small towns; but too few men get this training. There are many colleges, like Howard College in our state, and many more private academies that give efficient military training. The A. and M. colleges and many State Universities give instruction in tactics and drill formations under the supervision of the national government. If necessary, all this training can be made to conform to better standards because all these institutions are interested in the military training on account of its educational value. But so far there is no way of keeping in touch with men trained in them. The recently established summer camps where college men get

a little taste of real army life are good. Militia encampments and rifle range contests, if taken a little more seriously, can become good schools for army training. Training schools like West Point, Annapolis, and the regular army may cultivate the war-lord spirit; but as yet these other forms of military training apparently do not. If this deduction is true, then the aim of the future should be to enlarge, and so far as possible or necessary, reorganize these institutions to meet our needs.

To say just what should be done is not easy. But some good way of popularizing and intensifying the work of the National Guard and some way of keeping up with school and college trained men after they go into business are needed. It has been suggested that a small number of the best trained men be taken over on salary for one year after college into active service and then continued for three or four years in the reserve army which would require one month's training a year. About thirty-five men, trained in the work of a commissioned officer, graduate from Auburn every year. Upwards of three hundred more with a private's training, some with training in the work of the non-commissioned officers, go into business. Many of these privates are potential officers. The same conditions prevail in other states. Fifteen thousand and more new men take military training in the A. and M. colleges every year. Many of these men could be encouraged to enter a reserve army which would take up no more than a month's time yearly for three or four years. The government should provide greater inducements for these potential recruits for a reserve army. Some record might also be kept of the roster of all schools, giving military training and visiting army inspectors might be offered.

The suggestion that some military training be given in high schools is a good one. The success of military private high schools is conclusive and the fear that such training will provoke the spirit of militarism, as far as past experience goes, is groundless. The "setting up" military exercises are hardly surpassed in developing straight backs, good lungs, hard and supple muscles. The cooperative or group spirit is used as in all social games. Boys like to use guns and will use them, and training in workmanship is the best eye, muscular, and nerve training. There is no good reason why rural shooting clubs for boys should not be fostered in some way. The boys are always captivated by the boy scout organization because the game lays hold on the imagination. Boy scouts in England are now doing certain military services. A system of rural boy scouts, rural



al boy gun clubs, and military drill in high schools would contribute greatly to a better trained physical manhood. Our ideal, as every other civilized nation's ideal, should be a trained body—as well as trained mind—for every normal boy and man. Then, with a modicum of tactical instruction and occasional actual field services, such as taking long marches, building fortifications, for a large proportion of our fit men, we can keep our nation ready for war without creating a military caste.

#### AUBURN CADETS AT THE INAUGURATION.

Auburn cadets made a most excellent impression before the large gathering of citizens from all sections of Alabama at the Inauguration of Governor Henderson, and Dr. Thach has received many letters of commendation over the soldierly manner in which the corps moved and the gentlemanly manner in which the students conducted themselves.

The following is clipped from the Advertiser's account of the parade:

"The cadets at Auburn, several hundred strong, also aroused cheers from spectators on their appearance within the vision of the assembled thousands on Capitol Hill. The noted band of this institution was accorded place of honor in the parade, and the cadet corps moved with such an air of real soldiership that the ovation they received aroused gratification in the hearts of friends of the institution."

In other columns we find articles relative to the gentlemanly manner in which the cadets deported themselves and read: "College days, college stunts, college pranks and college jokes were in order in Montgomery yesterday when the cadet corps from the Alabama Polytechnic Institute appeared here, and much comment was heard on the "cut up" propensities of the "Boys from O'ld Auburn." All of the comment was of a favorable nature, however, and the boys made a splendid showing in Montgomery.

"Foolish and faddish freshmen, sedate sophomores, joyous and jocular juniors and staid and sanguine seniors graced the streets of Montgomery and pulled many a quip that brought joy to the hearts of the unsophisticated laymen.

"The Auburn cadet band was one of the features of the inaugural parade, and later gave an enjoyable concert on Court Square. The Auburn cadet corps added much to the inaugural parade and the presence of the college boys was applauded all along the line.

"Dr. C. C. Thach and Tom Bragg were here and it was a sure thing that "Old Auburn" would make a great and grand

showing with these two popular officials on the ground.

"The college lads had a lot of fun during the day. They pulled many original stunts, gave many and varied college yells, raised a little Cain in general, but with all deported themselves in a gentlemanly and sportsmanlike manner."

Auburn is indeed gratified at the excellent showing made by the corps as a military body, and also at the gentlemanly manner in which the cadets conducted themselves, one newspaper characterizing the student body as "sober crowd of excellent young manhood."

#### THE BAND ENTERTAINED.

Following the inaugural parade the band was assembled at Court Square and a concert given from the balcony out over the entrance to May's Rose Garden. Immediately after the concert the members of the band were feted to a six-course luncheon by Duncan May, owner of the popular refreshment and dance parlors. The headquarters of the band were made at his establishment and in every way possible Mr. May proved himself a generous host. Though the formal opening of the Rose Garden had not been made, a large crowd of invited guests assembled in its parlors to hear the band concert and danced away the afternoon.

#### AUBURN MEN IN SAN FRANCISCO GET TOGETHER AT CHRISTMAS DINNER.

On Christmas day an Auburn dinner was given at the home of Mr. A. G. Jones in San Francisco, Cal., and a number of O'ld Auburn men gathered to feast over Auburn's victories in football and to rejoice at the way in which Auburn is forging to the front in every department. Among those present were: Mr. Allen G. Jones, '04, the host of the occasion; Billy Shepard, '04; "Doc" Brown, '03; A. H. Skinner, '08; and "Runt" Hale, '06.

#### AUBURN BAND TO PLAY FOR TAMPA CARNIVAL.

The Auburn band, formerly dubbed "Sousa's Band," which has degenerated into the more familiar, if less classic, student-title of "Susie's Band," has been engaged for the Gasparilla Carnival in Tampa, Fla. This carnival is Tampa's annual feature festival week and it is considered quite an honor that the Auburn band should be selected as the leading musical organization for the occasion. The band is composed of twenty-five members, and is a very efficient organization, as is evinced by numerous flattering articles in the Montgomery papers.



## BENJAMIN S. PATRICK, '97

Colonel of the regiment of Auburn Cadets

Colonel Benjamin S. Patrick, class of '97, Commandant of the corps of Cadets of the Alabama Polytechnic Institute has played an important part in the development of the military department at Auburn. After graduating at Auburn and receiving the M. S. degree in '98, Col. Patrick, attended the Patrick Military School in South Carolina and prepared himself in the theory and practice of military science and tactics and was called to Auburn to later become

Commandant of the College.

Though he has never seen service in the regular army he is well versed in the theory of military instruction and his work has been so successful that the last inspector incorporated in his report the statement that the "cadets gave evidence of training and are well disciplined" with the additional statement that their "military duties are very zealously performed." The regiment of cadets consists of two battalions of four companies each.

## AUBURN IN UNCLE SAM'S EYES

### INSPECTOR'S REPORT

*The Alabama Polytechnic Institute.*  
By H. L. LAUBACH, Captain, General Staff.

The military instruction at this college is a single feature of the course but a great deal of importance is attached to the military department by the faculty. It is desirable that the college be placed in class "C."

The college has a civilian as commandant and he is well supported by the faculty. The students are required to be continuously in uniform and the conditions are such as to impress them constantly with a sense of being under military discipline.

The military spirit is developed and nurtured to a satisfactory degree and the military duty is very zealously performed. The general appearance of the students was fair and the cadets of the graduating class make an excellent impression.

Inspection developed generally satisfactory conditions. The discipline of the corps and the unusually good condition of the rifles merit particular notice. These cadets have but one uniform and of necessity many cadets did not present a satisfactory appearance in this respect. Gloves are generally very dirty. Leather equipments not in good condition, being old and worn but still serviceable.

Instruction limited almost entirely to drill ground work. Bulletin No. 1, not received at this college and instructions not carried out according to its directions.

Escort of the color, regimental review and inspection, battalion drills in close order, and company drills in close and extended order, satisfactorily executed.

No range or gallery practice.

The steadiness of the cadets in ranks, lack of gazing about, and raising hands in ranks were noticeable, and gave evidence of training and discipline.

(The above report is condensed from the report of Captain Laubach, of the General Staff, made after an inspection of the military department of Auburn on April 6th, 1914.

The designation, Class "C," is made according to military requirements and in this respect Auburn is ranked along with Cornell, University of California, University of Georgia and all other "colleges and universities (including land-grant institutions) not essentially military where the curriculum is sufficiently advanced to carry with it a degree and where the average age of students on graduation is not less than 21 years.")

### AUBURN MEN IN THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

We made several efforts to secure articles from Auburn men who served in the Spanish-American War and regret that we have no official roster that we can publish.

An attempt to form a roster of the officers of that service could not be completed but in this connection we would like to mention F. W. Hare, '98, Monroeville, Ala.; W. L. Fleming, '96, Baton Rouge, La.; H. C. Armstrong, '87, Pensacola, Fla.; and Champ S. Andrews, '94, New York City, as a few of the Auburn men who distinguished themselves. We shall be very glad to add any names to this list and thus in time fill out our entire roster of volunteers.

### AUBURN MEN AT WEST POINT.

Auburn is well represented at West Point and her former students are making most excellent grades. From the latest reports it is learned that John H. Wills, ex-'13, is making a most enviable record and that J. M. Johnson, '12, is leading the first year men in several departments. T. B. Hearn, ex-'11, a member of the graduating class, and Norman McNeill, ex-'15, first year student, are also doing good work.

### THE RIFLE RANGE PROBLEM.

Auburn has long realized the need of a rifle range and steps toward locating suitable grounds have been made but ground with the essential qualities of a level range and hill for a back ground have not been found. Since the time of the students are so well taken up it would not be practicable unless the range could be located near the college.

Though all efforts to date have proven fruitless, the idea will not be given up and as soon as a suitable ground has been obtained the college will apply to the government for the targets and ammunition. The problem is to locate the grounds and obtain the long term lease which the government requires.



## AUBURN AS A FACTOR IN THE MILITARY PREPAREDNESS OF OUR NATION.

Just now when the attention of everyone is directed toward military affairs and when the principal subject for discussion is the military effectiveness of the United States forces, we find that a great deal of recognition, and justly so, is being accorded those colleges in which military training is given and the military spirit fostered.

It is almost universally agreed that at this time it would be unwise for the United States to adopt any policy for greatly enlarging the Army and Navy, due to the fact that such a move would cause us to loose, to a certain extent, the confidence of other nations and though such action would hardly be interpreted as preparation for engagement in the War still under the psychological tension of the situation we could not command the respect and confidence we desire and which is essential in order to be the important figure we should in any future peace negotiations.

And so a discussion of the value of military training in colleges and an effort to show the great potential force so generated should be of interest to the readers of the ALUMNUS, not only because it is a subject of current discussion but because Auburn as such a college, has played an important part in the development of this potential reserve strength which is now being recognized as an important factor in the military effectiveness of our country's defense.

It is interesting to note what the presidents of some of the larger Eastern colleges have to say on this matter and the Nassau Literary Magazine (Princeton) publishes an article in which its president, Dr. Hibben, directly advocates the policy of military training in colleges, and is quoted as declaring that he would emphasize "the need of military strength without military display, a reserve power without diminution of economic efficiency and the serious drain upon our resources which a large standing army necessitates." He states that if we "secure military knowledge and skill in a potential rather than an actual form, we shall avoid all the dangers of a self sufficient and arrogant militarism." and that he believes this would give us strength to meet any "critical emergency" and at the same time "leave us free from the domination of a military caste and a military policy."

President Schurman, of Cornell, speaks of the success of such a system as that in vogue at Cornell and offers the suggestion in Everybody's Magazine that the government utilize the military training

it demands from the State Colleges by certain modifications, so as to create a reserve body of non-commissioned officers. We read:

"Since the Federal Land-grant Act of 1862, in the interest of agriculture and the Mechanic Arts, there has been one college or university in each State of the Union which prescribes for its students a certain amount of military training. This at the present time extends over two years and occupies three separate periods a week of not less than an hour each period; and this military training, which is prescribed for freshmen and sophomores, may be continued as an elective by the upper classmen for two years longer.

"Counting Hawaii and Porto Rico, there are now fifty-two land grant colleges and universities, and in 1913 they had enrolled in their military departments 23,854 students. Besides these, there must be added sixteen similar institutions for the colored race, in which in 1913 there were 2,426 students enrolled for military drill. And in nearly all these institutions the military training is in charge of an officer of the regular army; and in detailing him the War Department instructs him that it is his duty to qualify students who enter the military department to be company officers of infantry, volunteers or militia.

"Here, then, under the auspices of the National Government, we have our colleges and universities already engaged in the military education of young men with a view of qualifying them to company officers of infantry, volunteers or militia. And this is a reserve from which the nation might draw, almost indefinitely, officers to train our reserve army of volunteers.

"Hitherto the Government has paid little attention to the military work done in these colleges and universities. Yet, there is no other way in which officers for reserve can be secured so easily and so economically—officers, too, of superior mental endowments and scholastic and scientific attainments. All that is needed is that the Government shall adopt the policy of utilizing them.

"In his report as Chief of Staff in 1913, General Wood made one recommendation which, if acted on, would constitute an important first step in this direction. He recommended that there be selected, from the graduating classes of the institutions at which officers of the army are detailed as military instructors, 400 men each year who should be commissioned as provisional second lieutenants in the regular army for a period of one year with full pay and allowances, to be discharged at the end of the year with a certificate of proficiency if they merit it, as company, troop, or battery officers

of militia, volunteers, and the regular establishment in war.

Let the Government then offer such commissions in the regular army to the best-trained men in the military departments of our colleges and universities, on the understanding that after a year they may return to civil life, retaining their commissions as officers of the reserve."

The Literary Digest states that the words of President Hibben and Schurman are "in tune with much popular sentiment of today" and that the opinions of other college presidents as gathered by the New York Times coincide with Dr. Hibben in so far as it seems wise to provide for defensive measures.

The situation at Auburn is a parallel of the Cornell situation and what is true of Cornell is equally true of the military department at Auburn. Though Auburn troops are under the direction of a resident civilian commandant, the results are all that are required and quoting from the report of the last Government inspector, "the military spirit is developed and nurtured to a satisfactory extent, the cadets of the graduating class make an excellent impression and the cadets give evidence of training and discipline to an unusual extent."

#### AUBURN MEN AS OFFICERS IN THE REGULAR ARMY.

Auburn is well represented in the roster of the officers of the regular army as will be shown by the following list of men who are serving in offices, ranking from Second Lieutenant to Colonel. The list could hardly be complete as there is no way to get an official list, though all the officers listed below are in actual service as their names have been collected from the "Army List and Directory" (September 20th, 1914) and addresses corrected through the assistance of Lieutenant Boyd, who is at present visiting in Auburn. We shall be very glad to list other Auburn men who are officers in any branch of the regular service, as they become known, and will print all corrections in addresses as they occur.

Colonel R. L. Bullard, ex-'83, 26th Inf. Manilla, P. I.

Henry R. Casey, '96, Capt. 161 Co. Coast Art., Ft. Barry, Cal.

Peyton G. Clark, '97, Capt. Inf. care Adjutant General's Office, Washington, D. C.

LeVert Coleman, '95, Capt. 168 Co. Coast Artillery, Ft. Monroe, Va.

Vincent M. Elmore, ex-'96, care Adjutant General's Office, Washington, D. C.

George M. Holley, '97, Capt. 8th Inf., Manilla, P. I.

Americus Mitchell, ex-'89, Capt. 25th Inf., Schofield Bks., H. T.

William A. Mitchell, ex-'98, Capt. Engr.

Army Service School, Ft. Leavenworth, Kansas.

Charles J. Nelson, '97, Capt. care Adjutant General's Office, Washington, D. C.

Jesse W. Boyd, '00, 1st Lieutenant 11th Inf., Auburn, Ala.

Jesse D. Elliott, '02, 1st Lieutenant, 6th Infantry, care Adjutant General's Office, Washington, D. C.

Harry T. Pillans, ex-'07, 1st Lt., Ordnance Dept., Rhode Island, Ill.

Noble J. Wiley, '97, 1st Lt., 5th Inf., Panama.

Will D. Wills, ex-'95, 1st Lt., 5th Inf., Panama.

Walter W. Wynne, ex-'10, 2nd Lt., 12th Cav., Ft. Robinson, Neb.

#### AUBURN MEN AS OFFICERS IN THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR.

With the call for volunteers for service in the Spanish-American war Auburn men rallied to the standard of the United States in greater proportionate numbers than did the alumni of any other college. Auburn from its alumni of enlistment age contributed thirty-seven officers and this proportionate number of officers to the alumni of the required ages is the largest of any college. As a matter of fact, Auburn contributed in total number of officers the third largest number of any college. Ohio State only led Auburn by a few men and Cornell, with its large number of alumni, was no great distance ahead. Auburn's record in contributing the officers for this service and the records these men made in the actual service should be a source of much gratification and pride to the Institution.

#### THE LETTER BOX.

*(Readers are urged to send in seasonable contributions for this column. Make your letters to the point and sign with name and class.)*

#### Editor the Alumnus:

I could not write an article on "Auburn Men in the Spanish American War" unless I made or had made a roster of our men who served in the war.

I met many of our men in the service; but the personal contact was only by chance. Much research would be required to make the roster with accuracy. An approximate list could be made by hearsay but it would have to be made in or near Auburn, where somebody knows more or less of what becomes of each man.

I would like to know:

(1) What percentage of officers were

furnished by Auburn in proportion to alumni of enlistment age?

(2) How does this compare with other colleges?

(3) How many of our men are now in the regular Army and Navy, and how many of these are in as a result of the Spanish-American service they saw?

(4) what percentage of the Auburn men who served during the Spanish-American War were, (a) sons of Confederate Veterans; (b) descendants of the veterans of the War of 1812; (c) descendants of the Revolutionary soldiers?

An article on Auburn and the Spanish-American War that didn't give the facts called for above, or most of them would of necessity be nothing more than a personal reminiscence and of little value. That can be written at Auburn or in Alabama better than it could be up here where one has so little chance for personal contact with Auburn men.

I would like to see something written on the possibilities of Auburn (and similar schools) being made the nucleus of a national reserve outside of the National

Guard and Regular Army.

Also something of Auburn (and similar schools) on modern thought about war and peace. Can we blend military training with right thinking on the peace propaganda? Can Auburn (and similar schools) become efficient for military purposes without a professional soldier in charge?

Could not Auburn, with its school of engineering and its stress on mathematics, do far better work in Coast Artillery study and drill than in training as Infantry. I have been in the coast artillery and also in the infantry and have often wondered why no one ever saw how Auburn could become noted as a Coast Artillery School (though not on the coast) and achieve distinction far beyond her ability to achieve in the Infantry.

And thus from the foregoing we see how one fool may ask more questions than a multitude of wise men may answer.

Yours truly,

Champ S. Andrews, '94.

## NEWS FROM THE CAMPUS

### AUBURN WINS DEBATE FROM N. C. A. & M.

Auburn was successful in winning the first inter-collegiate debate staged in the South in some time when her team, composed of Wilkinson and Campbell, defeated Messrs Cloyd and Crater, who represented North Carolina A. & M.

The North Carolina debaters chose the affirmative side of the question "Resolved, That the President of the United States should be Elected for a Term of Six Years instead of Four, and that He should be Ineligible for Re-election."

The North Carolina representatives presented some general arguments in a deliberate style, while Auburn debaters presented general and specific arguments in oratorical style and, in the words of Dr. Perry of Georgia Tech, who announced the decision of the judges, they were awarded the decision because they not only showed the "reasons why" but also cited the "wherein."

Spear, alternate for North Carolina A. and M., and Leach, alternate for Auburn, delivered interesting extemporaneous speeches as the judges were discussing the relative merits of the argument, but the wait was not long, as the judges, Dr. Losey of University of Alabama, Dr. Summey of North Carolina A & M and Dr. Perry of Georgia Tech readily agreed that Auburn had the better of the argument.

### DR. LOSEY ADDRESSES THE CONVERSATION CLUB.

Dr. Losey of the English Department of the University of Alabama addressed the Conversation Club members and numerous students on Friday night, January the 29th. His subject was the "Modern Drama" and from the writers he chose to discuss Ibsen, whom he credited with opening up a new field of thought and activity. Dr. Losey gave a most interesting interpretation of the drama "Ghosts" which he characterized as Ibsen's greatest tragedy.

### THE BASKETBALL SITUATION.

The Auburn team began with good prospects through a defeat of the strong Atlanta Y. M. C. A. team, but the team was riddled for the road trip when several regulars did not make the requisite grade on their examinations and as a consequence games were lost to Mobile Y. M. C. A., Columbus Y. M. C. A., Atlanta Athletic Association, and two to Mississippi A and M.

It was not expected that Auburn should prove a very serious rival for Mobile, Columbus or Atlanta, but the team is preparing to give the Mississippi A. & M. five a stiff battle when they come to Auburn for games February 22nd and 23rd.





Courtesy Birmingham News.

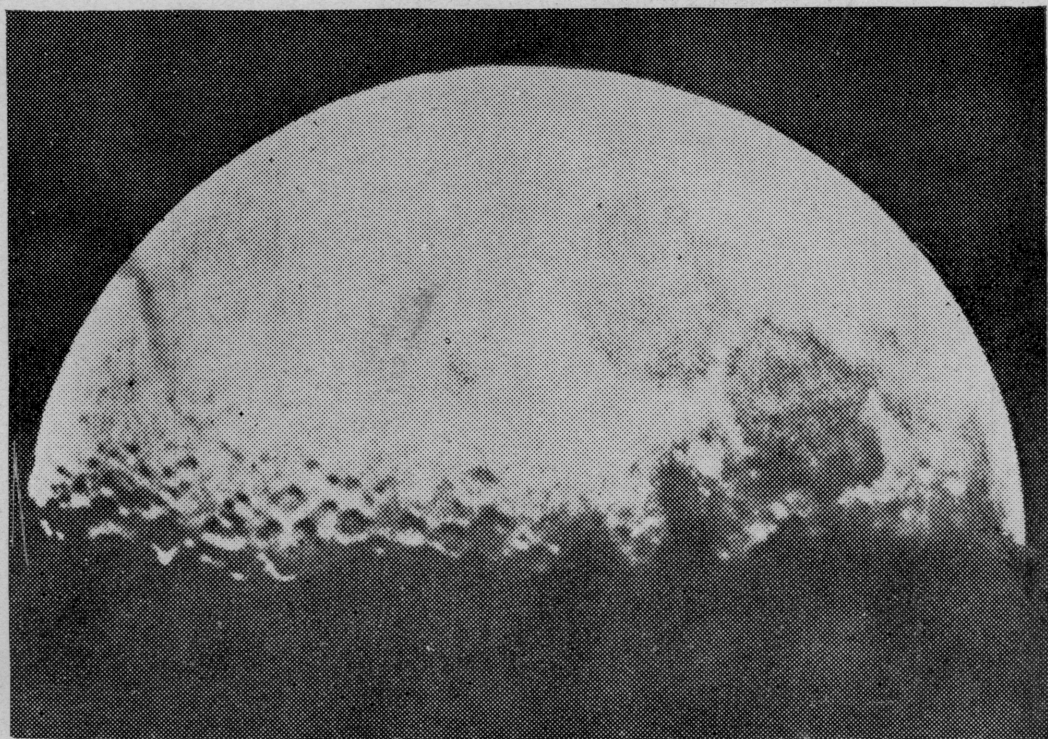
The above cut shows a telescope of the modern Newtonian type with the latest accessories of photographic camera, slow motions, driving clock, etc., and was constructed from the raw materials by students at Auburn, under the direction of Professor M. Thomas Fullan, of the Department of Machine Design and Drawing. Professor Fullan has given telescope designing and construction considerable attention for several years, is a member of the Society for Practical Astronomy and is Director of Section on Construction of Astronomical Instruments.

The students who assisted in the construction of the telescope are O. K. Seyforth, of Huntsville, Ala., A. T. Feaster and G. D. Fulmer of Birmingham, Ala., J. L. Prosser of Mississippi and E. C. M.

Kissick, of South Carolina; E. D. Pamporos, Greece, now a resident of Montgomery and J. G. Sparks of Birmingham assisted in preparing the designs.

The big tube is ten inches in diameter and seven feet long, and with the mounting complete, requires the combined effort of six men to place it in position. The mounting is so sensitive that the weight of a copper cent piece will cause the tube to be turned in its bearings. The fittings are finished in aluminum and dead black, which makes the general appearance very attractive.

The vital organ of the telescope, the speculum, has been under test for several months, in fact, it was begun over a year ago. It is compensated for changing temperature and the final adjustments



Courtesy Birmingham News.

FROM PHOTOGRAPH OF THE MOON MADE BY THE TELESCOPE CON-  
STRUCTED BY AUBURN STUDENTS.

The photograph of the moon here shown was taken with the telescope by Professor Fullan assisted by A. L. Thomas, of the Department of Machine Design, on the night of January 7, 23 hr. 20 min. 16 sec., Washington mean time. The photograph is considerably enlarged and consequently a great deal of the detail of the original negative, which was about one inch in diameter, is lost. However, the portion of the lunar topography partly in shadow stands out boldly; that which is brightly illuminated by the sunlight loses its detail.

On the left of the picture (the large shaded area) is the Mare Tranquillitatis, or Sea of Tranquility, so called; immediately below this is an area less clear which is the Mare Serenitatis, or Sea of Serenity. Near the center (the large crater) is Copernicus, and near it is the beautiful crater of Archimedes. In the original negative, by means of a magnifying glass, the entire illuminated surface is full of fine detail which is lost in the illustration.

The telescope is fitted with lunar and solar cameras, and the students of Au-

burn will make use of it in their course in Astronomy, making photographs of the heavenly bodies. An interesting fact in this connection is that the cameras, as well as the other accessories, have been made entirely from the rough material and no finished article has been purchased.

A number of photographs of the planets, Jupiter and Saturn, which have been in fine view, are being made with the instrument this month, by the students who will assist Professor Fullan in the work, despite the fact that the cloudy nights have interfered with several planned attempts.

The images of the celestial bodies are very sharp and clear, showing that work of the highest grade has been done upon the instrument and the students as well as Professor Fullan are being complimented upon the excellent skill displayed in manufacturing so delicate and exact an instrument.

It is said that Auburn enjoys the distinction of being the only college in America that has built entirely from raw material an astronomical telescope of high power and definition.



## ALUMNI NEWS

## AUBURN LOSES DISTINGUISHED ALUMNUS.

With the death of Dr. Howard M. Hamill, on January 21st, Auburn lost one of her strongest and most loyal alumni, and his place in the hearts of all Auburn men can never be filled. Though memorial services throughout the south have been held over the departure of this great and good man, a special significance is attached to the services held in his honor in his old home town, Auburn, Ala., for in his words "this is the place dearest to my heart."

Dr. Hamill was too well known and loved for us to go into the details concerning his life and work, but we are sure that all the alumni of Auburn will appreciate the following tribute from a speech by President Thomas Bragg of the Auburn Alumni Association, which he delivered before a large gathering of Auburn students and citizens at the special Memorial exercises held in the Methodist Church on the evening of January 31st.

A TRIBUTE TO HOWARD M. HAMILL,  
'67.

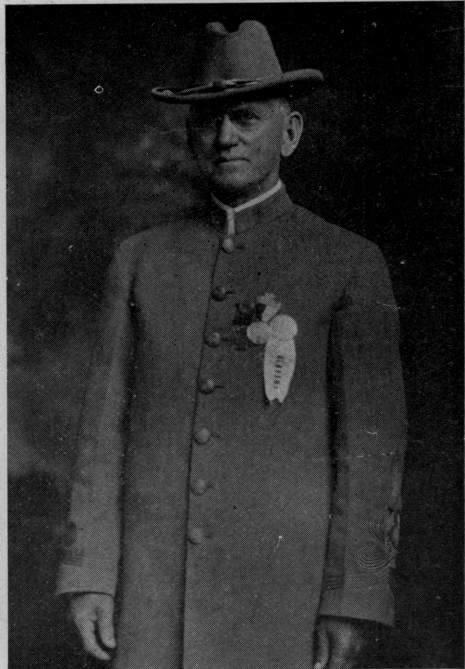
*By Thos. Bragg.*

Death, which knocks alike at the door of the rich man and the peasant, has again been busy at his accustomed task and on last Thursday one of Auburn's honored and most beloved Alumni, Dr. Howard M. Hamill of the class of 1867, passed away.

I am called upon on this occasion, due to my connection with the Alumni Association, to say a few words concerning our lamented friend and brother. I know it is customary for all of us to say pleasant things concerning those who die, but it was not necessary for Dr. Hamill to pass away, for those who knew him to heap encomiums of praise upon him.

There are many in this audience tonight who have often heard many kind and favorable words spoken concerning this good and great man prior to his death on January 21st. And should I attempt, on this memorial occasion, to sing his praises or laud his name, I can at least feel that I am not doing so because it is the customary and expected thing, but that I am only saying in public what I have often said in private to those who knew how I loved him.

I first met Dr. Hamill in June, 1907 when he came to Auburn to attend commencement, and like all Auburn men I was attracted at first sight to this splendid man, and as the years passed by I could feel myself being drawn closer and



HOWARD M. HAMILL, '67.

*The late Chaplain-General U. C. V.*

closer to this great character and knightly gentleman.

He was a mere lad when as an Auburn student, back in the 60's, he laid aside his cadetship and enlisted under the Stars and Bars of the Confederacy and fought bravely under that splendid banner until the conclusion of the war. After the war he engaged in the noble professions of teaching and preaching. At the time of his death he was not only President of the International Sunday School Association but was one of the leaders of the organized Sunday School work of the world, and was known and honored wherever christians live.

Dr. Hamill was an active member of our Alumni Association and was always ready to do his part in the work of the alumni.

We shall miss him more than I can tell you and no commencement in the future will be the same without the presence of this loyal and beloved son. No Home-coming or Alumni Banquet will be as brilliant without the eloquent voice of this charming speaker.

I remember several years ago, at an Alumni Banquet, Dr. Hamill was the Toast Master, and those of you who ever heard him speak can easily imagine that



he was most graceful and fluent as master of ceremonies on such an occasion. Toward the close of the banquet a representative of our Alumni Association and warm personal friend of Dr. Hamill, arose and in a magnificent speech presented him a beautiful loving cup as a slight token of the love, esteem, and respect of the alumni of old Auburn. Dr. Hamill was taken completely by surprise, but his surprise did not prevent him from making an eloquent speech of acceptance. It was the most beautiful I ever heard from the lips of any man, and the tribute he paid to our Alma Mater on that occasion lingers with me still. In the course of his remarks he told of his leaving his old home for the first time with his mother and their catching the train which brought them to Auburn. He said that after reaching Auburn and entering the college his mother remained with him for a day or two, due to the fact that, like all new students, he was extremely homesick. But finally the time came for his mother to go back home and he went down to the station with her to see her off. Just before the train left his mother kissed him good-bye and her parting words to her homesick son were "Howard, be a good little boy."

He told the alumni that his mother, who kissed him good-bye on that occasion was still living in north Alabama. He said if the alumni had no objections he would take the loving cup which they had just given him and next day proceed to his old mother's home in the northern part of the state and after kissing her he would present her with the cup that the alumni had given him, and would say "Mother, I give you this cup that my Auburn boys have given me. You know you told me in Auburn forty-seven years ago to be a good boy. Well, I haven't always been a good boy, but Auburn boys seem to think I have."

He closed this beautiful speech of acceptance by thanking the alumni again and again for the gift which they had so kindly and graciously presented him, and assured them that though,

"The monarch may forget the crown,  
That on his head so late has been,  
The bridegroom may forget the bride,  
Was made his own but yester e'en.  
The mother may forget the babe,  
That smiled so sweetly on her knee,  
But I'll ne'er forget my Auburn Boys,  
And all they have done for me."

These last two lines that Dr. Hamill quoted can be appropriately changed, and I am sure I voice the sentiment of every wearer of Auburn's Orange and Blue, when I paraphrase them to read:

And Auburn Boys will ne'er forget him  
And all he has done for them.

We will never forget him and I am frank in saying that I know of no one who can take his place. We were always calling on him to help us and, though a busy man he was, he never refused.

I remember about the middle of December, 1913, I wrote Dr. Hamill and asked him if he did not think it would be a good idea for us to send out a little Christmas verse or greeting of some kind to all the old Auburn men, scattered as they were in every section and in every clime. I also asked him that, if he thought well of the idea, would he not write the verse to the Alumni. In less than forty-eight hours, I received a letter from him thoroughly approving of the Christmas greeting to the Alumni from their old college and enclosing these lines as a suggestion of what we might send:

"As long as sunshine comes and goes,  
Or roses bloom or water runs,  
Doth Auburn in her heart enclose  
The memory of her absent sons.  
Afar or near, on land or sea,  
They are her lovers strong and true,  
And around about them tenderly  
Entwines her Orange and her Blue.  
So on this merry Christmas day,  
As the old college comes to view,  
Auburn doth bow her head and pray  
God bless and keep and prosper you."

It always struck me that Dr. Hamill said the nicest things in a most delicate and charming manner, especially was this true of all his writings.

He sent out a most pleasing Christmas card to his friends this past Christmas, and I think if a person did not even know him and had never heard of him, that he could have formed an excellent idea of this great man from reading the original poem on the Christmas card sent. He said:

"If I were Santa Claus himself  
I know what I would do  
I would take my pack from off the shelf  
And give first choice to you  
I'd put it in a Christmas sack  
In grateful memory  
And say: I'm only giving back  
The love you've given me."

Another original Christmas verse that our friend sent out several years ago is as follows:

"God give to each of us dear friends  
To fight life's battle to the end  
And when at last the victory's won  
To hear our Captain say 'Well done.'"

Surely he fought life's battle to the end and his Captain said, "Well done."

Our friend has gone and "We shall never see his like again."

May the students of Auburn and those

who are to come here in the future study the life and character of this loyal alumnus and emulate his splendid example.

May you, too, young men love Auburn as he loved her and may you, like him, come back to your Alma Mater when strands of silver come to your locks and slower motion to your steps.

Young gentlemen, if you study his life and follow in his footsteps your life, too, like his, will be a success. And what is success? I once heard it defined as follows:

"He has achieved success who has lived well and loved much; who has gained the respect of intelligent men, the trust of pure women, and the love of little children; who filled his niche and accomplished his task; who has left the world better than he found it, whether by an improved poppy, a perfect poem, or a rescued soul; who has never lacked appreciation of earth's beauty or failed to express it; who has looked for the best in others and given them the best he had; whose life was an inspiration, his memory a benediction."

If this a definition of true success, and I am sure it is, then Dr. Hamill's life was a genuine success.

He did not accumulate money. Dollars and dimes were not his goal. He did not seek political preferment, nor the applause of his fellow men, but preferred to go up and down this old world scattering sunshine and rendering service in his Master's name.

Not only did he love his church and his college but he loved mankind as well.

Surely the poet had in mind such a life and such a character when he said: "There are hermit souls that live withdrawn

In the peace of their self-content;  
There are souls like stars that dwell apart,

In a fellowless firmament;  
There are pioneer souls that blaze their paths

Where highways never ran—  
But let me live by the side of the road  
And be a friend to man.

I know there are brook-gladdened meadows ahead,

And mountains of wearisome height;  
That the road passes on through the long afternoon,

And stretches away in the night;  
But still I rejoice when the travelers rejoice

And weep with the strangers that moan  
Nor live in my house by the side of the road,

Like a man who dwells alone.  
Let me live in my house by the side of the road,

Where the race of men go by—  
They are good, they are bad, they are weak, they are strong,

Wise, foolish, so am I.

Then why should I sit in the scorner's seat,

Or hurl the cynic's band?

Let me live in my house by the side of the road

And be a friend of man."

In my opinion, the man whose memory we honor tonight in this memorial service, "Lived in a house by the side of the road

And was a friend of man."



CAPTAIN B. D. LUMSDEN, '60.

Captain B. D. Lumsden, Auburn's oldest Alumnus and one of her most loyal supporters, died January 7th, 1915 at his home on his large plantation near Macon, Ga.

Capt. Lumsden was born at Eatonton, Putnam County, Georgia, on March 17th, 1840. He received his education in private schools and at Mercer and Auburn, taking his degree at Auburn, then the old East Alabama Male College. After graduation he taught a private school in Macon and the following year was elected principal of the Vineville Academy.

In May, 1861, he resigned his position in the academy and went to the front as a corporal in Floyd's Rifles, a military

company then in Macon. After serving two years in this company he was transferred to Bibb's Cavalry, Phillips' Georgia Legion, Hampton Brigade.

He later returned to Georgia and organized Company B, 5th Georgia Reserves and was elected Captain. His company and regiment surrendered to General Sherman at the last battle of the war at Brown's Shoals, North Carolina.

Capt. Lumsden was a prominent figure at the Auburn Home-Coming in 1913 and always took a large interest in the affairs of the Auburn Alumni Association. It is hard that Auburn has to lose one of those who form such a rich heritage of the college.

**INFORMATION BUREAU AND HEAD-  
QUARTERS FOR AUBURN MEN  
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AL EXPOSITION.**

We are pleased to announce that, through a very generous offer from Mr. Allen G. Jones, '04, Auburn will establish headquarters in his office in the Rialto Building, San Francisco, Cal. Mr. Jones, a graduate in Electrical Engineering, is now prominently connected with the General Electric Company in the State of California and is thoroughly familiar with the points of interest in the State as well as in San Francisco and offers himself as a "Bureau of Information" to Auburn men. There are many other Auburn men in San Francisco, and they are all saturated with true Auburn spirit, and guarantee that any Auburn man who will make himself known will be well looked after and made to feel at home.

**PERSONALS.**

*(Auburn men are urged to send in news items and personal notes for this column)*

Mr. Will T. Warren, '97, of Birmingham, is architect for the new buildings being erected for the Alabama Girls Technical Institute, Montevallo, Ala.

Mr. C. C. Certain, '06, professor of

English in the Birmingham High School, recently attended the council of the Association of English Teachers in America at the annual meeting at Chicago last month.

Hon. Chas. D. Kline, '89, State Senator from Calhoun County, was a most interesting visitor to Auburn during this month. Senator Kline is one of the leading figures in the present session of the State Legislature and his talk before the student body of Auburn was most appreciated.

Lieutenant Jesse W. Boyd, '00, is visiting relatives in Auburn and is greatly interested in the developments being made by the college along the several lines of college activities.

Edward H. Wills, '01, is professor of History and chief purchasing agent for the Alabama Girls Technical Institute, Montevallo, Ala.

Mr. John E. Davis, '11, is building inspector on the construction of a new building for Montevallo.

Prof. C. A. Brown, '92, principal of the Birmingham High School addressed the recent meeting of the Association of Home Economics Teachers at Montevallo.

Misses Nellie M. Tappan and Madge J. Reese, and Prof. L. N. Duncan of the Extension department of Auburn were also interesting speakers before the Montevallo convention.

Mr. W. J. (Billie) Calloway, '13, is owner and manager of the Public Drug Co., Shawnee, Okla., and is prospering with "The Careful Pharmacy" as his business motto.

Dr. W. W. Perdue, '08, is now assisting Dr. H. H. Briggs, of Asheville, N. C., in his private office and sanitarium. After serving some time with the Alabama State Board of Health he resigned from that board in June 1913 and went to New York where he studied the special work in the Eye, Ear, Nose and Throat diseases. After completing his term of service there he studied at Vienna and was stationed in that city at the Chiari hospital, where he remained until a few months after the war began, but then returned to New York and from there he accepted his position as assistant to the Asheville specialist.

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